

ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

The Wilson Ornithological Society is indebted to Dr. Josselyn Van Tyne for his careful compilation of the list of serial publications in the Society's Library appearing in this issue. It is hoped that the publication of this list will stimulate members to fill out series which are incomplete and will result in increased use of the Library.

The Conservation Department of Cornell University is conducting a research project concerned with hybridization in surface-feeding ducks, including the Mallard, Pintail, Black Duck, Gadwall, Green-winged Teal, Blue-winged Teal, and Shoveller. The purpose of this study is to obtain further information on the relationships within this controversial group, using behavioral data, relative fertility determinations, and possibly other physiological techniques. It is hoped that the greatest possible number of hybrid crosses among these species may be studied, and we are in need of first generation male hybrids of known parentage for this purpose. Any aviculturist who happens to possess such birds, and who is willing to lend them for this project should contact Charles G. Sibley or Paul A. Johnsgard, Department of Conservation, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

A new list of sales publications has been compiled by the New York State Museum and is available without charge on request to the Museum at Albany 1, New York. The revised list includes a considerable number of zoological bulletins, circulars, handbooks, etc., that were formerly considered out of print and have been available only through dealers. The stock of some of these items is small; in such cases, preference will be given to orders from libraries of universities, foundations and other organizations.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A recent article on distribution of the Dickcissel by Dr. A. O. Gross (1956. *Auk*, 73:66-70) disregards several major contributions to his topic printed in a New York State magazine (Spiker, 1950. *Kingbird*, I (1):6; Stoner, 1951. *Kingbird*, I (2):12; Tabor and Benton, 1951. *Kingbird*, I (3):57). This points once again to the need for more complete recording of available ornithological literature.

Dr. Stratton, editor of the *Zoological Record*, has written to ask that I attempt to persuade editors of such journals to forward copies of their magazines to Col. W. P. C. Tenison, British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW 7, England. They would also be pleased to have copies of back numbers so that the literature contained therein may be recorded.—GERALD R. RISING, Editor, *The Kingbird*

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